

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15 and 17-24 are in the case.

This application has been refiled in order for the Examiner to consider the new limitation in the claims that the composition consists of a non-homogenous mixture of components A and B. This language now specifically precludes the presence of at least 5 wt% of a water-soluble hydroxy alkyl cellulose or hydroxy alkyl methyl cellulose essential and critical in the invention of the Canadian patent, for reasons as set forth in the Supplemental Response Under 37 CFR 1.116 filed March 20, 1998, incorporated herein by reference.

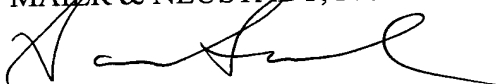
The amendment to the claims also distinguishes them over the European patent by specifically reciting that the composition consists of a non-homogenous mixture of components A and B. This is contrary to the teaching of the European patent for reasons as pointed out and discussed at page 4-5 of the Supplemental Response Under 37 CFR 1.116 filed March 20, 1998, incorporated herein by reference.

The Examiner's rationale for adhering to his rejection of the claims over the cited references thus clearly is no longer applicable.

Allowance of the claims is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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